

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the title on the cover page, page 1, and the last page as follows:

**~~SYSTEM AND~~ METHOD FOR IDENTIFYING  
WORD PATTERNS IN TEXT**

Please amend paragraph 1 on page 2 as follows:

The present invention relates to ~~systems and~~ methods for identifying word patterns referenced in text, and more specifically, to identifying the word patterns substantially in real time.

Please amend paragraph 1 on page 4 as follows:

The ~~system and~~ method of the present invention have been developed in response to the present state of the art, and in particular, in response to the problems and needs in the art that have not yet been fully solved by currently available ~~systems and~~ methods. Accordingly, it is an overall object of the present invention to provide a ~~system and~~ method that overcomes many or all of the above-discussed shortcomings in the art.

Please amend paragraph 2 on page 4 as follows:

To achieve the foregoing object, and in accordance with the invention as embodied and broadly described herein in the preferred embodiment, an improved ~~system and~~ method for identifying word patterns in text is provided. In certain disclosed embodiments, the ~~system~~ method for identifying objects referenced in a stream of text comprises an input pipeline configured to receive an incoming stream of text comprised of words; a text analysis module configured to consult a semantic network to automatically identify one or more word patterns in the incoming stream of text with a single examination of each word; and an object association module configured to reference a known object identified by a word pattern of the semantic network.

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

A system and method for identifying word patterns in text is conducted in real time and is highly suitable for network and Internet use. The system comprises a semantic network that may be compiled on a local computer or at a remote host and a software text analysis module for receiving the text to be analyzed, parsing the text, submitting the text to the semantic network, and receiving the results. The method involves receiving a stream of text, breaking the stream of text into a plurality of threads, tokenizing the words in each thread, and comparing the words to identified words in the semantic network. Recognized words are then examined, together with surrounding words in the text to determine whether the words are part of a word pattern. Word patterns are located at nodes in the semantic network in a hierarchical structure, and certain word patterns correspond to objects of the semantic network. When all word patterns involving a word are located, links are followed to objects corresponding to the word patterns. Several nodes may point to a single object, but each object is represented only once in the semantic network. Identified objects may thus be identified in real time, as the text streams through the text analysis module.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows: